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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/890,447  
Applicant : Yoshikatsu Akiyama  
Filed : October 19, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 1651  
Examiner : Susan Marie Hanley

Confirmation No.: 3040

Docket No. : PK9931  
Customer No. : 22840

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

July 9, 2004

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office action of June 24, 2004, in the connection with the prosecution of the caption application, please consider the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 21 of this paper.